

feels it when the load is made too heavy more than those do who never even lift a finger towards moving the burden. To our positive knowledge the principal financial burden of the general church work is borne by those who attend the conferences. Furthermore, in the purchase of the Publishing House not a single minister was put on the financial committee. Three of the five members were bankers and men of established reputation as financeers. The other two are successful business men of unquestioned integrity. But you have been liberal, Bro. Lehman, and we thank you for your counsel as well as your donation. May God bless the count from which it was taken as he did the loaves and fishes, so that you may have more after having given than you had before.

A dear brother who has been one of the most enthusiastic and liberal supporters of the cause of the Brethren church, but who had in a large measure lost faith in the possibility of Ashland University now writes that if the church in Ashland will be made a success that all of the churches' interests located there will be upheld morally, financially and with patronage. We have had letters from quite a number of representative brethren expressing the same idea. To all these brethren we will say that we never met a more earnest self-sacrificing band of members than we have found at Ashland. Bro. Haskins will bear us out in this statement. True the devil had got into a good many of them and deceived them in various ways, but they all seemed quite glad to forsake him, "and all his pernicious ways," and begin anew their labor in the Master's vineyard. In our opinion there is a glorious future for the Ashland church and school. The idea that the devil can whip the Almighty out in certain localities is born of infidelity. God is just as able and willing to take care of his children at Ashland, if they will forsake their sins and trust in him, as he is to take care of them at any other place.

DEBATE AND COMPOSITION.

The Rev. Dr. J. M. Buckley brings to a conclusion an admirable series of four articles on the Principles and Practice of Debate in the April number of *The Chautauquan*. In this last article, which deals with Debate and Composition, the writer, himself an eminent debator, points out that while debate is of peculiar value in self-training it is one-sided and therefore imperfect; and that literary composition is also a method whose result, though highly important, if followed beyond certain limits will work injury in several particulars.

Having made these propositions clear Dr. Buckley shows that the study and practice of debate and composition by the same person will ensure the advantages and counteract the evils of both.

The debater more than any other has need to practice literary composition, endeavoring to use his powers and resources therein so far as possible in a manner different from that of the disputant, pruning, touching, and retouching.

If he does not commit his forensic speech to memory he need not fear loss of power. Should he never print a line the reflex influence upon his spoken style will be admirable. In the heat of debate he will still forge those intellectual blades that cut, those hammers that fashion, those augers that bore, those wedges that split, those chisels that shape; and the beauty of his style in the intervals will relieve the antagonism which his force arouses.

The professional writers should attend literary clubs, take part in oral debates, both private and public, if circumstances allow and his judgment and impulses unite to favor. If he cannot do this he should participate frequently in private conversations, sustained by faith in and directed by the admirable statement of Johnson, "Method is the excellence of writing and unconstraint the grace of conversation."

He would do well to attend courts and political meetings, occasionally imagining himself called to debate and fancy what he would say or how he would reply to the speeches of those whose sentiments he disapproves.

Thus whether his specialty be debating or composition, being a reader he will be a *full* man; a converser (or debator) a *ready* man; and a writer an *exact* man.

NOTES AND NEWS.

The children do things with their might when they get at it. They have immensely out grown their page in this number.

Brother Haskins has not definitely settled arrangements for the future. He expects to go to Goshen from this place, but may remain here over the coming Sunday.

The pull to lift the Publishing House debt is becoming interesting. Let the good work go on, so that by the next Conference, it will be out of the way. Who will give the next twenty-dollars?

The Publishing House debt ought to be cleared away by next Conference, so that the College finances can be pushed along. Brethren are carrying a heavy load in that, and they ought to have relief soon.

It may be a matter of interest to some to know that among the additions to the church here was the son of Bro. Isaac Kilhefner, deceased. He is a bright young man and no doubt will make a useful worker in the cause of Christ.

Brother L. A. Hazelett, of Indiana, has sent an essay which will appear soon. He is one of the "College Boys," and we are

pleased to see the effort to help the paper. Brother H. was a member of the church while here, and was ordained to the ministry.

We have several articles for the young people, but they are crowded out for the present; but we would have no one think that such are not acceptable. They will be printed, and let others follow. This feature should be made one of special importance; our young folks demand special attention and they will not be neglected.

Wealthy members of the church could do a great thing for the church and something for themselves if they would arrange to invest several thousand dollars in this printing business. A few thousand more would make it a first rate publishing concern, and then our ministers, agents and others could solicit all classes of printing from a card to a large book, and they could both help themselves and the church. Other churches make money in doing general printing and we can too.

We are assured that the College Committee and Dr. Garst will arrive at Ashland next Friday, without fail. The coming has been a long one, and we therefore expect that the stay will be long also. The first work that should be done is to prepare to open a Summer Teachers' Normal.

The county all about Ashland has been aroused over the meetings held at the College.

The things that surprises the people most is that there was enough left here to attack the ramparts of satan. Bro. Haskins is a most earnest worker. Another effort or two and we will be a large Brethren Church.

A CLERICAL DREAM.

The pastor dreamed that his church was a stage-coach at the foot of a hill, up which, in the absence of horse power, it fell to his lot to drag it.

Some of his officers and members bade him be of good cheer, for they would all help. He should guide the tongue; some of them would turn the wheels, others push; and so, together they should get it up the hill.

For a while the heavy coach moved slowly but surely up. After a time, however, its weight seemed to increase, till the pastor, bringing the vehicle to a stand on the first bridge and turning the tongue to prevent it slipping down ran to see what was the matter. All the helpers, tired of turning wheels and pushing, had jumped into the coach and were sitting inside!

The pastor cannot drag the coach up all alone. If all will take hold, the heaviest coach will move up the toughest hill.